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Committees:

Housing (Ranking Republican)
Commerce and Labor
Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade
Transportation

Special Committees:

Joint Legislative Audit Review Committee Joint Committee on Water Supply during Drought Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) Council of State Governments - Agricultural Task Force Dear friends,

The 2006 legislative session, which began Jan. 9, is a short one — only 60 days — but an important one for our district and the state.

As we approach the midway point of this session, I wanted to briefly outline in this newsletter some of the key priorities I am addressing on your behalf at the state Capitol.

At the top of that list is the expansion and development of the ethanol and biodiesel industries which could pump millions of dollars into the Eastern Washington economy and create more jobs.

I am also continuing work to expand access to affordable health care, better protect us against arson, repeal the death tax, protect the usage of water for agriculture and livestock, reform workers' compensation, unemployment and our minimum wage laws, and find ways to help Washington retain current jobs and attract new jobs in the private sector.

As always, I'm interested to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me with your questions, comments and ideas.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve you!

Canéa Holmquist

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Representative

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2006 Legislature - Session Priorities

13th District



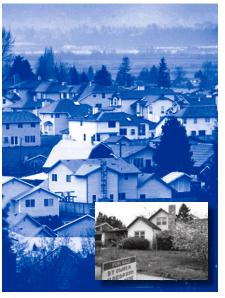
AGRICULTURE and WATER

Priority: Strengthen the family farm by providing tax relief, allowing families to use their land as intended, and ensuring access to water.

Much of our local economy in the 13th District is dependent upon agriculture and access to water. I am continuing to fight on behalf of the farmer to protect our right to continue our agricultural practices. It's why I sought and received an opinion from Attorney General Rob McKenna after the state Department of Ecology (DOE) imposed a 5,000 gallon-per-day limit on the amount of groundwater livestock owners could draw without a permit. With his help, I was able to clarify stock watering rights and DOE backed down.

I am continuing to seek suspension of the water relinquishment "use-it-or-lose it" law for those in the Odessa Sub-Area Aquifer so that irrigators may temporarily stop withdrawing groundwater to allow the aquifer to recharge without the fear of losing their water right to the state. Plus, I am working for increased water storage for our farmers.





LAND USE

Priority: Protect private property rights and prevent government from taking property without compensation.

Our state constitution is very clear: "No private property shall be taken or damaged for public or private use without just compensation having been first made." We need to hold government accountable to the law. We also must ensure that eminent domain is used only for the case of public good — not so that government can buy your land for less than its value and sell it back at a higher rate to a private interest.



Rep. Janéa Holmquist

2006 Session Priorities – 13th District

HEALTH CARE

work best for them and their families. by offering affordable, tailored choices that Priority: Give health care back to patients

has 48 mandates. The extreme number of these health care by as much as 50 percent. Washington Health insurance mandates drive up the cost of

they would like to. nesses cannot afford to provide coverage for their employees, even though -izud llems ynem tent oz ti abem zen zatebnem

consumer choices for health coverage. employee. This would allow plans to be customized and provide affordable are chosen, the cost could be split equally between the employer and the that could be included in a health insurance plan. If more than 15 mandates businesses and their employees to choose at least 15 mandates from the list (House Bill 2121) that would allow "cafeteria-style" coverage, allowing small To make health insurance more affordable, I have written legislation



JOBS and ECONOMY

compensation, unemployment business, and reforming workers' the regulatory burdens on small way of job growth by removing Priority: Get government out of the

fill 32 phonebook-sized volumes, forming a total state regulation has expanded to .insurance, and minimum wage laws.

When businesses succeed, more jobs are created, providing a better economy to make sure state government will be working with, not against businesses. Committee. I am doing all that I can in that committee on the regulatory level their employees to return as a member of the House Commerce and Labor This year, I was recruited by members of the business community and vacant storefronts lining some of our streets in our small communities.

highest minimum wage rate in the nation, and it's no wonder that we have

nesses and, in turn, for their employees who are struggling. Add to that the

stack of paper more than five feet tall. That's tough for our local small busi-

and quality of life in Washington. That's my goal!

am fighting to kill this tax. The death tax also strikes hard against our local family businesses, and so

BOBFIC SYLELK

wel evip bne , sabnefte sex Priority: Strengthen laws against

enforcement officials the tools to criminals, protect children from

ensure the protection of its citizens. Unfortunately, our laws have allowed of Washington? There is no more fundamental duty of government than to than 18,000 sex offenders in the state Did you know that we have more investigate arson-related fires.

named after Jessica Lunsford, a victim of a repeat sex offender. Unlike I have co-sponsored House Bill 2476, "Jessica's Law Plus," which was ing on children. We need to have stronger sentences against child rapists.

for sex predators to return to our neighborhoods only months after prey-

protection for victims of child rape, whether the offender is known to the the proposal from the majority party, our legislation offers the strongest

and methamphetamine production. We also need to strengthen our laws against auto theft, identity theft

keep track of and locate convicted arsonists in Washington. that would create a statewide arsonist registry to help law enforcement arson fires throughout the state. I am continuing to promote legislation mer of 2004 is now behind bars, there have been a number of recent Although the arsonist who set 11 fires in Kittitas County in the sum-

restoring voter-Priority: Put **LYXES** pue BODGEL

It was the .estimil gnibneds approved tax and on a budget by government

a two-thirds majorlaw which required voter-approved I-601 session that the ultimate irony last

there's nothing in place to protect taxpayers from government's insatiable on spending taxpayers' money. This year, we have a \$1.4 billion surplus, and only a simple-majority vote. The elimination of that law also gutted the limits ity of the Legislature to raise taxes was eliminated by the Democrats with House floor.

rainy-day fund, and repeal the death tax and other tax increases heaped upon should fill the big hole in the pension system, put away money in a protected programs and adding 500 state employees as the governor has proposed, we cipline of the taxpayers' money. Instead of spending the surplus on costly new -we need to restore I-601's tax and spending limits and insist on fiscal disappetite to spend your money.

EMERGENCIES, not to shut out the will of the people. were not emergencies. I want to ensure that emergency clauses are used for dum. Emergency clauses were attached to nearly 100 bills last session. Most they also prevent citizens from challenging the legislation through referena bill to become effective immediately after the governor signs it. However, gency clause, requiring a two-thirds vote for its use. Emergency clauses allow I am also supporting reforms to prevent legislators' abuse of the emer-

ENEBGA

in Washington. use of biofuels grown and produced Priority: Promote the expansion and

-mash yd am ot the brought to me by farm-

and realistic alternatives. ington. As the price of fuel has skyrocketed, people are searching for serious timing is right this year to adopt minimum renewable fuel standards in Washpromote the development and use of agriculture-based fuels. I believe the ers in Grant County, and I have worked for several years in the Legislature to

biotuel crops. sel facilities to be built and time for farmers to grow an adequate supply of gasoline demand. This recognizes that it will take time for ethanol and biodiestate's aggregate diesel fuel demand and 10 percent of the state's aggregate biodiesel fuels and ethanol are respectively available to meet 2 percent of the tor determines a sufficient quantity of competitively priced state-produced measure is triggered when the Washington Department of Agriculture direcsold in the state to contain a small percentage of biodiesel and ethanol. The dustry by ensuring a minimum market. It would require all diesel and gasoline The standards I have proposed would eventually jumpstart the biofuel in-

fuel standard. agriculture and consumers while negotiating a Washington state renewable that the governor is on board, I will be working to protect the interests of local farmers will benefit and be part of the industry from the beginning. Now My proposal reflects the marketplace and provides assurances that our

and domestic oil. fuel produced and consumed in Washington means less reliance on foreign burn cleaner, which will help our air quality. Finally, every gallon of renewable ing of the many by-products of biofuels production. Agriculture-based fuels agriculture sector of our economy, but also other sectors through the marketin Washington. The industry will create jobs and positively impact not only the Development of biotuels is a win on all fronts. It would use crops grown



